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Message Text

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51
ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 RSC-01 FEAE-00 DODE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SAJ-01 SS-15 /089 W
---------- 068974
R 071630Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7816
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
ERDA GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS BONN 02152

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, GW
SUBJECT: REACTOR SAFETY -- BWR PIPING CRACKS

REF: BONN 02124

1. GERMAN NUCLEAR POWER FIRM, KRAFTWERK UNION (KWU), ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE ON FEBRUARY 5 ABOUT THE PIPING CRACKS DISCOVERED IN AMERICAN BOILING WATER REACTORS. AFTER AN OUTLINE OF THE FACTS AS REPORTED IN THE NRC STATEMENT, KWU PRESS RELEASE CONTINUED AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN INFORMAL TRANSLATION:
"AS FOR THE DEFECTS IN BYPASS PIPES IN THE RECIRCULATION COOLING SYSTEM OF SOME AMERICAN BOILING-WATER REACTORS, WHICH BECAME KNOWN IN THE FALL OF 1974, THE SMALL CRACKS NOW FOUND IN THE CORE SPRAY LINES ARE IN PIPE MATERIAL OF TYPE AISI 304 AND 316 (STAINLESS STEEL). IT IS KNOWN THAT THESE UNSTABILIZED AUSTENITIC STEELS ARE APT TO BE AFFECTED BY INTERCRYSTALLINE CORROSION AND INTERCRYSTALLINE TENSION-CRACK CORROSION.
" IN GENERAL, COMPONENTS SUBJECT TO PRESSURE IN THE NUCLEAR PART OF KWU PRESSURIZED AND BOILING-WATER
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REACTORS ARE MADE OF STABILIZED AUSTENITIC STEELS

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(EITHER NIOBIUM OR TITANIUM-STABILIZED) WHICH ARE
IMPERVIOUS TO THE ABOVE CORROSION PHENOMENA.
" THE PREFERENCE GIVEN TO THESE STABILIZED AUSTENITIC
STEELS IS THE RESULT OF DECADES-LONG EXPERIENCE IN
GERMANY WHICH COVERS THE FULL RANGE FROM PRODUCTION
THROUGH PROCESSING (INCLUDING WELDING TECHNIQUES) TO
APPLICATION IN MANY BRANCHES OF TECHNOLOGY.
CONSEQUENTLY, THE CRACK PHENOMENA FOUND IN BOILING-
WATER REACTORS IN THE U.S.A. CANNOT BE ANTICIPATED
IN KWU NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS."
END INFORMAL TRANSLATION
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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